

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

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Published daily, except Saturday and Sunday, during the college year.
Subscription, per semester.....\$1.00

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THE SINGLE TAX AND ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS

In addition to the arguments considered on the front page of this issue, those opposed to the Single Tax have advanced in the Forum others of interest. Someone has said that attendance at school events is a distraction, pulling the unwilling student from his studies.

To consider this matter on its merits would open up for discussion the value of activities by way of diversion from studies, and supplementary thereto. We are not disposed to argue this matter now. The fact that one's education consists of something besides the classroom; the fact that mingling with one's fellows in society and self-government is of nearly as great importance as the mastery of a lesson, have been so long accepted on this campus by students and faculty alike that they are now dead issues. The attitude of the grind—that nothing which calls him from his book should be countenanced—no longer finds sympathy from anyone.

But a more worthy argument is advanced when they maintain that activities must be attended to be of any benefit. Why even this argument must fail, however, is not hard to see. Such attendance is important, but not necessary. Anyone who seeks a position when he graduates will find that the standing of his school is due largely to its prominence in student activities. Of course, this is not necessarily a commendable fact, but it is true nevertheless. The standing of a school in athletics, in the matter of its daily paper, even in its internal social activity, are of commercial value to its graduates. This value is accepted equally by the students who have helped to make the school what it is and those who have been grinds.

Furthermore, the very spirit in which the student lives is largely determined by the standard of the activities of the school. A student may refuse to read his school publications; he may refuse to attend or pay any attention to athletics contests; he may decline to meet his fellows in social life; he may neglect to hear the masters of debate trained by his alma mater, but he cannot resist the feeling of optimism and life, of progress and hope, brought on by a great football or debating victory, a successful social occasion, or a live student publication. It is this constant background of mood—more than the grades he receives—that is to determine whether he graduates as useful and progressive citizen, or a callous and unfeeling grind. The crab may angrily draw within his shell to resist the oncoming wave, but it has never been known to refuse the morsels of food which the tide leaves within its reach.

G. E. Spear, B. Sc., M. D., University of Nebraska, '03; physician and surgeon. 1417 O St. B-3021.

The Student Should Know—

STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The Student Activities committee is a body of faculty members who exercise a kind but firm supervision over all student organizations.

Until the organization of this committee, the university had no regulations concerning student functions. Parties could be held at any time, with no closing limit. All the chairmen of the various social functions paid the bills and pocketed the remainder.

All this is changed now. A rule limiting parties to Friday and Saturday evenings, with 12 o'clock closing, has been inaugurated. Now the committee chairmen deposit all moneys received under the direction of the auditor of the Student Activities committee, and the surplus for class affairs goes into the class treasury. Many unusual questions are sub-

mitted to the committee by students. A few of them, mentioned by Professor Chatburn, chairman, in a recent article in the University Journal, are given below:

"May dramatic and glee clubs perform away from Lincoln?"

"May women take part in intercollegiate games?"

"May a law fraternity turn its weekly meeting into a dinner at the hotel?"

"These and numerous other questions, from boarding house regulations to the latest 'dance hold' are constantly occurring," said Professor Chatburn.

The personnel of the committee at present is:

George R. Chatburn, chairman; Mary Graham, secretary; L. B. Tuckerman, auditor; C. C. Engberg, Florence McGahey, P. M. Buck and F. W. Sanford.

UNIVERSITY NOTICES

The meeting of the Business Women's club has been postponed until March 9, 1916. This is due to the illness of Professor J. E. LeRossignol.

The annual banquet of the Deutsche Gesellige Verein will be held in the Lincoln hotel Friday evening, March 3, at 6:30 o'clock.

On University Night the gallery will open at 7:45 o'clock. The regular 10c admission will be charged as heretofore. Those few who procured tickets at the Temple and found the lower floors sold out can exchange the same at the gallery ticket window on Saturday evening for a regular Oliver admission ticket to the gallery.

The Palladian society will give a leap year program Friday evening, March 3, at 8 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

The Christian Science society of the university will meet tonight at 7:30 o'clock in Faculty hall.

CARDINAL MERCIER THANKS AMERICANS FOR BELGIANS

London.—Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, has addressed the following letter to Mr. Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American Committee for Relief in Belgium:

"I understand you have so kindly addressed anew an appeal to the generosity of your countrymen to provide clothing for our painfully destitute people. I confess I had much preferred to shake hands with my American brothers in token of thankfulness for what they already have done than that we should again stretch to them the open hand to beg.

"Your country has already done so much for us; it has given us much food, and, above all, in personal co-operation for our economic rehabilitation, it brings us this help with such a moving and complete spontaneity that we have long desired to convey to your people a full expression of gratitude, untarnished by renewed appeals to their generous impulses. But you yourself, dear friend, invoke us to appease our scruples and therefore, I, knowing better than any one the destitution of our Belgian people, should feel myself a traitor to my duty as their pastor, if, through an exaggerated feeling of national pride, I should refrain from also pleading for those who are suffering.

"Only yesterday tears arose in my eyes when, crossing the street in Moline, I met a party of strong, honest workmen with stooping heads, their eyes fixed on new clogs. These were men habituated to the support

of wives and children through their own labor, but had been for fifteen months without work. The last of their savings are exhausted. Their shoes were worn out, and the relief committee had distributed among them some clogs, with the injunction to use the leather rags from the worn out shoes as linings to keep their feet from dampness.

"You Americans, who prize highly the value of labor and so possess the natural impulse of earning comfort and success by your own exertions, will well understand the mental suffering of noble souls forced to depend on charity. Therefore, you also know how to hide your liberalities under anonymous veils and how to distribute them through hands as delicate as they are discreet. Interpreter of the feelings of the Belgian population, we thank you as much and more for your way of giving than for the gifts themselves. May I add that one of the greatest benefits for which we shall feel eternally indebted to the American people will be the fixing on America of the admiring attention of the Belgians? The Belgian people have learned to know you well, to look at you in a beautiful light, to feel to some extent what they would gain in following in your footsteps

"When the hour of reconstruction comes, we will invoke them to keep eyes on your great land of fecundating initiatives; your land of ambition for more comfort, not through covetousness of other people's wealth, but through tenacious will to individual endeavor, with a patriotism that ignores civil discord and draws its strength from a collective love for national progress; yes, we will invoke our people to imitate your high virtues and we are confident that our benefactors will find in this spreading of their own moral influence their real reward.

"Please accept, dear friend, the expression of high esteem and devoted gratitude.

CARDINAL MERCIER,
"Archbishop of Moline."

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